

## New York Field Office Federal Activities Program Update Congressional District 26

The Millennium Pipeline Project is a proposed 442-mile-long natural gas pipeline that would originate at the Canadian border in Lake Erie, extend across the southern tier of New York State and terminate in the City of Mount Vernon. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has given the project conditional approval. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), the New York Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), and the New York State Department of State (NYSDOS) are reviewing the project. As proposed, the pipeline would cross 507 waterbodies consisting of wetlands, streams, and rivers constituting navigable waters. The Service's concerns relate to the environmental impacts of the proposed crossings of Lake Erie and Havestraw Bay. On May 9, 2002, the NYSDOS ruled the project inconsistent with the provision of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (15 CFR Part 930.63). We are also working with the Corps, NYSDEC, and NYSDOS to ensure that impacts to wetlands and waterbodies are reduced to the extent practicable and that there will be appropriate mitigation to compensate for unavoidable wetland and waterbody impacts.

